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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): PRE-CISENSE A/S [DK/DK]; Dr. Neergaards Vej 3, DK-2970 Hørsholm (DK).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): AASMUL, Søren [DK/DK]; Borgmester Schneiders Vej 60, DK-2840 Holte

(74) Agent: SMART, Peter, J.; Beck Greener, Fulwood House, 12 Fulwood Place, London WC1V 6HR (GB).

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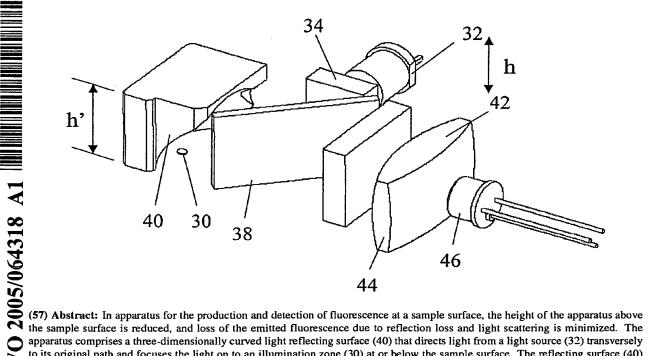
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apparatus comprises a three-dimensionally curved light reflecting surface (40) that directs light from a light source (32) transversely to its original path and focuses the light on to an illumination zone (30) at or below the sample surface. The reflecting surface (40) also collects, directs and at least partially collimates emitted fluorescence transversely to its original path and towards a detector (46).

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